

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 33 and 105 have been amended, and claims 108-110 have been added. After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 33-35 and 104-110 are now pending in this application.

Applicants request that this Amendment and Reply be entered and considered, because it is believed to place the application in condition for allowance and to lessen the number of potential issues for appeal.

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 34 and 104. Applicants have elected not to place these claims in independent form, because applicants submit that claim 33, from which claims 34 and 104 depend, is allowable for at least the below-stated reason.

Claims 33, 35, and 105-107 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as anticipated by Garland (USP 5,934,747). Applicants traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 33 defines a leg assembly that includes “a spring extending from the sleeve to the slider.” Garland does not teach or suggest such a spring. For at least this reason, applicants traverse the rejection of claim 33, and its dependent claim 35, under 35 USC § 102(b).

Claim 105 defines a leg assembly that includes “a spring extending from the spring base to the slider.” Garland does not teach or suggest such a spring. For at least this reason, applicants traverse the rejection of claim 105, and its dependent claims 106 and 107, under 35 USC § 102(b).

Applicants have added new claims 108-110 to the application. Support for these claims can be found, for example, at pages 14 and 15 of the application. Applicants submit

that these claims are patentable over Garland for at least the same reason as claim 33, from which claims 108-110 depend.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 CFR § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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